

Message Text

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S/S- MR. ORTIZ

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT:TRAVELIING PRESS REPORTAGE, MORNING, AUGUST 23

FOR AMBSASSADOR ANDERSON FROM S/PRS (FUNSETH)

NO. 10

WIRES:

AP - SCHWEID FROM DAMASCUS SAYS HAK "ASSURED SYRIA THAT HIS PEACEMAKING EFFORTS INCLUDE ALL ME ISSUES, INCLUDING THE ISRAELI-OCCUPIED GOLAN HEIGHTS." DESPITE RABIN'S DOUBTS OF GOLAN POSSIBILITIES, "NEWSMEN ABOARD KISSINGER'S JET WERE TOLD THAT ISRAELI OFFICIALS GAVE HIM THE IMPRESSION THAT ISRAEL IS PREPARED TO TRY AND THAT HAK IS A WILLING NEGOTIATOR." HAK WILL RETURN TO ME AFTER UNGA SPEECH, IF IT BECOMES NECESSARY IN ORDER TO WRAP UP AGREEMENT.

UPI - GROWALD LEADS WITH SAME ASSURANCE AS ABOVE, ADDING THAT SENIOR OFFICIAL SAID ON PLANE THAT-"SECRETARY FACED A DELICATE TASK WITH ASSAD, WHO THE OFFICIAL SAID WAS CLEARLY UNHAPPY WITH THE ISRAELI-EGYPTIAN NEGOTIATIONS. THE OFFICIAL SAID BOTH THE ISRAELIS AND SYRIANS ARE INTERESTED AT LEAST IN PRINCIPLE IN THE IDEA OF OPENING SOME MANNER OF PEACE NEGOTIATIONS ... OFFICIAL TOLD NEWSMEN THAT THAT SHUTTLE DIPLOMACY WAS MAKING PROGRESS AND UNCLASSIFIED

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SAID THE SECRETARY WAS PROCEEDING AT EXACTLY THE PACE HE

PLANNED, CLEARING AWAY THE LESSER ISSUES AND GETTING DOWN NOW TO THE SPECIFIC PROBLEMS ON A JERUSALEM-CAIRO

SETTLEMENT. HE SAID EGYPT AND ISRAEL HAD AGREED ON THE PRINCIPLE OF A SETTLEMENT AND ANY FAILURE AT THIS POINT WOULD BE ON SUCH SPECIFIC POINTS AS HOW FAR ISRAEL WOULD

WITHDRAW IN THE SINAI AND HOW FAR EGYPTIAN FORCES WOULD ADVANCE."

REUTERS - NELSON CITES OFFICIALS SAYING HAK AND SADAT FAILED TO IRON OUT PROBLEMS HOLDING UP AGREEMENT. SNAGS REMAINING INCLUDE LOCATION AND STAFFING OF MONITORING STATIONS. U.S. OFFICIAL SAID AID TO EGYPT DISCUSSED AS WELL, LIKELY TO BE INCREASED THIS YEAR. ANOTHER TRIP TO EGYPT WILL BE NECESSARY. OFFICIAL SAID MONITORING STATIONS WOULD BE MANNED AT LEAST IN PART BY FORMER CIA EMPLOYEES.

CONGRESSIONAL OPPOSITION FORESEEN TO PROPOSED WRITTEN AGREEMENT THAT U.S. WOULD CONSULT ISRAEL ON HOW TO ASSIST IT IN THE EVENT OF SOVIET INTERVENTION -- SENIOR OFFICIAL SAYING WHILE U.S. WOULD NOT TOLERATE SUCH INTERVENTION, IT HAS NEVER COMMITTED ITSELF ON PAPER TO TAKE ACTION. (IN SEPARATE STORY, CHADWICK FROM JERUSALEM REPORTS ON GOI GAMPAIGN TO CONVINCE ISRAELIS OF AGREEMENT BENEFITS.)

PAPERS:

WASHPOST - BERGER LEADS FRONTPAGE WITH ISRAELIS AND U.S. DISCUSSING WRITTEN AGREEMENT TO CONSULT IN EVENT OF SOVIET INTERVENTION, CITING U.S. OFFICIALS. SUCH AGREEMENT "WOULD SIMPLY FORMALIZE A SITUATION THAT ALREADY EXISTS." CONGRESS WOULD BE INFORMED OF ANY SUCH AGREEMENT, WHICH MIGHT BE PRESIDENTIAL LETTER, BUT NOT ALL

PARTS WOULD BE MADE PUBLIC.

EARLY-WARNING STATIONS AND THEIR PERSONNEL WAS AMONG TOPICS DISCUSSED IN ALEXANDRIA, AS WERE FINAL EGYPTIAN AND ISRAELI LINES IN SINAI. REPORTERS TOLD ADMINISTRATION WOULD SUBMIT REQUEST FOR ECONOMIC AID LARGER THAN LAST YEAR, NO FIGURES UNCLASSIFIED

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GIVEN. PERSONNEL OF MONITORING STATIONS COULD BE PRESENT OR FORMER EMPLOYEES OF CIA OR ELSEWHERE.

AN SEPARATE ARTICLE ON PAGE 10, BERGER TXLLS YF HAK "PILGRIMAGE" TO YAD VASHEM "IN A NEW EFFORT TO SHOW ISRAELIS THAT HE UNDERSTANDS THEIR CONCERNS ABOUT MAKING A NEW DEAL WITH THE ARABS ... MUCH OF THE CRITICISM DIRECTED TOWARD THE SECRETARY IS PARTLY MOTIVATED BY

CONCERN THAT, AS A JEW, KISSINGER MAY HAVE A FREER HAND IN PUSHING ISRAEL TO MAKE COMPROMISES THAT COULD, IN THE LONG RUN, LEAD TO ISRAEL'S DESTRUCTION. THERE IS A GROWING DEMAND HERE TO END THE PAINFUL STEP-BY-

STEP PROCESS OF PEACEMAKING AND TO AIM FOR AN OVERALL SETTLEMENT.

THAT WOULD TAKE LONGER, AND PROBABLY DEPRIVE KISSINGER AND THE FORD ADMINISTRATION OF A BIG FOREIGN POLICY SUCCESS IT BADLY NEEDS. BUT SOME ISRAELIS ARGUE IT WOULD SERVE ISRAEL BETTER ... KISSINGER ASKED THAT REPORTERS BE KEPT OUT OF THE MEMORIAL, YET HE OBVIOUSLY WANTED THE WORD TO GO OUT THAT HE HAD GONE THERE AND THAT HE CARED ... "

NYTIMES: FRONTPAGE STORY BY HENRY KAMM FROM JERUSALEM TELLS OF RABIN EFFORT TO REASSURE ISRAELIS ABOUT AGREEMENT. GWERTZMAN ON PAGE 8 TELLS OF MEETING BETWEEN "OPTIMISTIC" HAK AND SADAT. REPORTERS ON ISRAEL-EGYPT FLIGHT TOLD THAT HAK PLANNED TO COVER IN DETAIL ALL POINTS OF PROJECTED AGREEMENT, BOTH RESOLVED AND UNRESOLVED ISSUES. "THERE WAS NO SENSE OF A MAJOR CRISIS DEVELOPING, BUT A FEELING THAT AGREEMENT WAS NEAR." MANNING OF WARNING STATIONS TO BE WORKED OUT, INCLUDING POSSIBLE FORMER EMPLOYEES OF CIA AND NSA.

TO MAKE ISRAELI ACCEPTANCE EASIER, U.S. IS UNDERSTOOD TO HAVE AGREED TO PUT ASSURANCES IN PAPER, BEYOND UNDERSTANDING OF HIGHER AID LEVELS, TO PERHAPS INCLUDE INVOLVEMENT IF SOVIETS INTERVENE IN THE AREA.

CSMONITOR, LATIMES, CHITRIB, HEARST NOT AVAILABLE.

NETWORKS:
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CBS WORLD NEWS ROUNDUP: NEIL STRAWSER: SECRETARY KISSINGER LEFT ALEXANDRIA, EGYPT TODAY, SAYING HE WAS CARRYING BACK TO ISRAEL SOME NEW EGYPTIAN IDEAS, BUT FIRST CAME A SIDE TRIP FOR HIS PEACE SHUTTLE, A STOPOFF IN DAMASCUS.

BKALB: HAK FLEW INTO DAMASCUS FOR TALKS WITH SYRIA'S PRESIDENT ASSAD - THE SECRETARY UNDOUBTEDLY REVIEWING HIS PROGRESS TOWARD A NEW INTERIM AGREEMENT BETWEEN EGYPT AND ISRAEL, AND VOLUNTEERING HIS EFFORTS TO DO THE SAME FOR SYRIA AND ISRAEL, IF THE TWO COUNTRIES SO REQUESTED. THE PRESIDENT OF SYRIA IS A KEY ELEMENT IN A COMPLICATED NEGOTIATION NOW UNDERWAY VIA HAK'S SHUTTLE DIPLOMACY. PRESIDENT ASSAD HAS TREMENDOUS CAPABILITY TO UNDERMINE THE PACT NOW BEING WORKED BETWEEN JERUSALEM AND CAIRO; IF HE SO DESIRES. THE SYRIAN PRESIDENT CAN LAUNCH AN ALL-OUT PROPAGANDA OFFENSIVE AGAINST THE AGREEMENT, DENOUNCE THE EGYPTIANS FOR SELLING OUT THE INTERESTS OF THE ENTIRE

ARAB WORLD, SEND NEW UNCERTAINTY RACING THROUGH THE AREA BY REFUSING TO RENEW THE MANDATE FOR UN TROOPS IN THE SYRIAN-ISRAELI DMZ WHEN THEIR CURRENT MANDATE RUNS OUT LATER THIS YEAR. IN A SENSE THEN THE KISSINGER

MISSION HERE IS AN EFFORT TO WIN AT LEAST SYRIA'S
TOLERATION OF THE PACT NOW EMERGING BETWEEN CAIRO AND
JERUSALEM,AND SUGGEST THAT THE PROSPECTS ARE THERE ARE

A SIMILAR AGREEMENT BETWEEN DAMASCUS AND JBRUSALEM.

STRAWSER: IN ISRAEL IN THE MEANTIME, THE RABIN GOVERN-
MENT IS LAUNCHING A CAMPAIGN TO SELL THE PEOPLE ON THE
BENEFITS OF A SINAI AGREEMENT WITH EGYPT.

NBC, ABC, WESTINGHOUSE NOT AVAILABLE.

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